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Europe takes charge in Ryder Cup

Sports, Page 9



Sunday comics

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Iran missile program nearly complete - Mordechai

By STEVE RODAN and ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

Iran, with massive aid from Russia, is on the verge of completing its development of ballistic missiles that can strike any part of Israel.

In an interview with The Jerusalem Post, Mordechai said the US and Israel have received intelligence information over the past few months that have led both countries to conclude that Tehran has progressed faster than previously thought in both its medium-range ballistic missile and nuclear weapons programs.

Mordechai said that, at Iran's current pace of development, Teheran will be able to manufacture missiles that can hit Israel, the Gulf states, Asia, and parts of Europe by 1999.

Mordechai said US intelligence officials now have a more alarming assessment than that of their Israeli colleagues of how close Iran is to achieving its goal.

of the US, [to US Vice President] Al Gore, the prime minister [Binyamin Netanyahu] and others who visited Russia.

transfer of technology to the Islamic republic. But the Clinton administration opposes the use of US economic aid as a lever to stop Russian aid programs to Tehran.

See IRAN, Page 11

Israel Radio reports:

IDF training for war with PA

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

IDF troops reportedly staged a series of military exercises near Jenin last week aimed at reconquering Palestinian-controlled areas and battling PLO fighters assaulting Jewish settlements.

PA rounds up Hamas activists, Page 2

According to Israel Radio yesterday, soldiers practiced recapturing a Jewish settlement that had been overrun by the Palestinian Police.

The exercise took place one year after the bloody riots that followed the opening of an exit to the Western Wall Tunnel.

The IDF, which has previously acknowledged it has contingency plans for a major conflagration with the Palestinians in the territories, refused to elaborate on the reported exercise, saying it does not discuss operational activity or training.

But one military source dismissed the idea that it was actually aimed at reconquering the territories. "There was an exercise, but it certainly was not aimed at recapturing the West Bank," said the source.

Quoting a senior PA security official, Reuters said the IDF had trained with helicopters, tanks, and troops near Jewish settlements around Jenin.

Military Intelligence and the General Security Service have steadily warned of the increasing possibility of a renewed Palestinian uprising in the territories, saying this time it would include gun battles with Palestinian forces.

According to Ha'aretz, Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's government has rejected this intelligence assessment. In an interview last week with Channel 2, Netanyahu called the Ha'aretz report inaccurate and incomplete.



Travelers jam Ben-Gurion Airport last night in an attempt to fly out before today's scheduled strike.

General strike set for today

By DAVID HARRIS

By midnight last night, it appeared that the Histadrut would go ahead with an open-ended general strike starting at 6 a.m. this morning, affecting some half a million workers, despite last-ditch negotiations with the Finance Ministry to avert it.

Histadrut and Treasury representatives met three times over the weekend in an attempt to prevent what the Histadrut is dubbing as the largest-ever strike in Israel's history.

The National Labor Court also considered appeals last night from the state, the Manufacturers Association, the banks' representative organization, the Federation of Chambers of Commerce and the Union of Local Authorities in Israel, for injunctions against the strike.

asked Labor Party chairman Ehud Barak to personally intervene and call off the strike.

"I'm neither optimistic nor pessimistic," Finance Ministry Director-General Shmuel Slavin said. "We have until 5:59 a.m. to prevent the strike."

Full strikes were expected to paralyze government offices, including the National Insurance Institute, the Employment Service, local authorities, schools, banks, the Postal Authority, the fuel industry, buses, airports, seaports, military industries, textile and food industries, metalworks, agriculture, and electronics industries.

See STRIKE, Page 2

Court verdict on Olmert fraud charges due today

By ELLI WOHLGELERNTER

The Tel Aviv District Court is expected to rule today in the campaign fraud trial of Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert.

The case involves the 1988 Knesset elections and the 1989 local council elections, when Olmert was treasurer for the Likud, and a member of a non-profit organization in charge of donations to the party.

According to the indictment, Olmert is accused of intentionally misleading the state comptroller by "hiding the fact that the Likud received, against the provisions of

the Campaign Funding Law, contributions from Israeli corporations." The corporations received receipts indicating they had paid for "advertising," thereby enabling them to claim the campaign donations as business expenses, in violation of tax laws, the indictment says.

It also charges that in its report to the state comptroller for the 1988 elections, the Likud did not include corporate contributions in the total for campaign contributions received.

Olmert refused to comment on the case yesterday.

At his court appearance on May 21, Olmert testified that he had not been in charge of donations from Israeli companies. He said that those responsible, Yona Peled and Menahem Atzmon, had been tried and convicted for the offenses.

"That year I was extremely busy," said Olmert. "I had no time to think about anything. I had to appear every evening at three or four places as part of our campaign."

According to Olmert, Atzmon was in charge of contributions. "I trusted him and Peled implicitly," he said.

Weizman to meet Mubarak in Egypt

President Ezer Weizman will meet Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak today in Alexandria, to discuss the peace process and the case of Israeli Druse Azzam Azzam, who is serving a 15-year sentence in Egypt for espionage.

Weizman, an architect of the 1979 Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty, has strong ties with Mubarak. This visit was arranged after Mubarak telephoned Weizman to express condolences over the September 4 suicide bombings on Rehov Ben-Yehuda which killed 5 Israelis.

The formal invitation arrived this weekend, and Weizman, with Netanyahu's approval, decided to head right away for the meeting, before his scheduled departure for Washington to meet President Clinton after Rosh Hashana.

Weizman met Netanyahu on Friday to discuss the trip. They also discussed Weizman's planned US trip and the latest political steps between Israel and the Palestinian Authority.

Afterwards Weizman met with Egypt's Ambassador Mohammed Bassiouny to plan the Egypt visit. Weizman will fly directly to Alexandria and meet Mubarak late in the morning through lunch.

Barak's 'Sephardi strategy' faces convention test

By SARAH HONIG

The Labor Party engaged yesterday in hectic efforts to get as many of its 3,700 convention delegates as possible to come today to the southern development town of Netivot, for a special sitting of the party convention.

This session is part of party chairman MK Ehud Barak's strategy to woo Sephardi voters away from the Likud. Thus the central resolution on the convention's agenda is the "Recognition and apology for past errors and turning over a new leaf."

Barak is expected to repeat and embellish the apology he gave last Thursday, in which he asked the Sephardim to forgive generations of Laborites for "the pain and suffering" they caused them in the early days of the state.

This apology, while recognized as an attempt to improve the party's electoral prospects, is not universally applauded in Labor. Many argue that no one appointed Barak to speak on behalf of past generations, or ascribe sins to departed leaders who, to judge from their own pronouncements, did not consider themselves guilty.

Leading this anti-apology school of thought are former party secretary-general Nissim Zvilli and would-be secretary-general Haggai Merom.

Merom said last night that "even the most pressing political expediency does not provide anyone with the license to

rewrite history according to his momentary convenience and need. That end does not always justify the means.

"The State of Israel in its early days did not have the means to provide newcomers with any more luxurious absorption than they were given, and veteran Israelis also did not have enough to eat. To claim that there was any wrongdoing and guilt, is to unjustly administer an impudent, callous slap in the face to the generation which founded the state and in particular to David Ben-Gurion.

"Barak, as someone who has only recently mounted the Labor bandwagon, certainly has no authority and no right to pass judgment on anyone or to apologize on behalf of deceased leaders."

The Likud has sharply criticized Barak's remarks.

At a toast for the new year hosted by Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu on Friday, Science Minister Michael Eitan said that "the first apology by Barak on behalf of generations of Laborites should have gone to the Likud and all its predecessor generations - the Revisionists, Herut, and Gahal - who always took up the cause of those in Israeli society shunned by the ruling elitist establishment."

Shas' Aryeh Deri said that "as long as there is the slightest link between Labor and Meretz, Barak cannot win Sephardi hearts."

Tens of thousands mark end of Talmud study cycle

By MARILYN HENRY

NEW YORK - Some 26,000 people are expected to pack Madison Square Garden this evening for the celebration of the Daf Yomi Siyum Hashas - the completion, after over seven years, of the daily study of the 2,711 pages of the Talmud.

The New York area overflow - another 18,000 people - will be at the Nassau Coliseum on Long Island. All told, 70,000 are expected to participate in the event, which was organized in North America by Agudath Israel of America. They will attend via satellite hook-ups from around the globe, including Jerusalem, Johannesburg, London, Montreal and San Diego.

Daf Yomi ("A daily page") is a study program in which students learn a page of Talmud each day. The study of the entire Talmud takes about seven-and-a-

half years.

The concept originated in Vienna in 1923, at the First International Congress of Agudath Israel, and was the brainchild of Rabbi Meir Shapiro of Poland, later the Lubliner rav.

The program was devised to unify Jews around the world by having them study the same page of Talmud each day. Participants study alone, or in groups meeting in homes, synagogues or - in one case - as studious commuters on the Long Island Railroad.

Daf Yomi has spawned a variety of tools to aid participants and has taken advantage of modern technology to extend its reach. These include the Internet and "Dial-a-Daf," which provides phone or taped daily Talmud lessons in Hebrew, English and Yiddish. It is said to be used by tens of thousands of people in Israel and North America.

مكتبات الرصيف

BOOK REVIEW

Hunting killers with the Los Angeles police

By JEROME H. SKOLNICK
THE KILLING SEASON: A Summer Inside an LAPD Homicide Division by Miles Corwin. New York: Simon & Schuster. 336 pp. \$23.
Imagine a buddy movie: A veteran homicide detective, parents Lithuanian-born, Venezuelan boyhood, perfect Spanish speaker, male, white, teams up with rookie homicide detective, female, black, to investigate killings in her home turf, South-Central Los Angeles. No romance, they're partners.
He favors Western boots, chews and spits tobacco, looks like a grizzled cowboy. Has been working South-Central for 15 years. Hopes to maintain a third marriage despite middle-of-night homicide calls.
Huge backlog of cases, always under pressure, always behind, hates paperwork, can't use computer. Is shrewdest, sharpest-eyed crime scene investigator in South-Central. Near burnout, never succumbs. Also a hunter. Dreams of lives for, annual fall trip to Wyoming - at the end of the killing season. During those weeks bathes but once.
"it must be a guy's thing," she says of the job he takes stalking and shooting deer, camping in the woods, not bathing. She wears silk stockings, designer jackets, skirts, slacks, boots. Fastidious, great at paperwork, computer. But is no polite secretary or sugary pushover.
Tall, strong, Won Police Olympics women's power-lifting championship.
Decked a wise-guy gangbanger, broke his nose. Fixes a large drawing of black cat on her desk. Underneath, a sign in big block letters: "I HAVE PMS AND A 9-MILLIMETER HANDGUN WITH 16 ROUNDS. ANY QUESTIONS?"
The Killing Season is indeed a grab-you-by-the-throat page turner, but it's also a serious book for those who want to comprehend the disheartening dilemmas contemporary inner-city crime poses for law enforcement and the rest of us.
Pete Razanskas and Marcella

Winn are the main detectives Miles Corwin shadowed for his reportage on a summer spent with the Los Angeles Police Department's South-Central Homicide Division.
Detectives assigned to that division investigate ever more violent and impersonal inner-city murders. Homicide patterns (according to a 1993 FBI study) have shifted dramatically. In the past, most were committed by a spouse, a family member, a friend, an acquaintance.
Domestic cases are most easily cleared by the police. But by the early 1990s, for the first time, more than half the American homicides were committed by strangers or unknown persons.
THE South-Central killings investigated by Razanskas and Winn were mostly of that kind: drug-related hits, drive-by shootings, homicides committed during a robbery, bodies dumped away from the place of death. Crimes that used to be simple robberies or car thefts end up as "senseless" killing. The more "senseless" a killing, that is, the less rational the link between the motive and the killing of a compliant victim, the harder it is to solve.
Because the detectives Corwin followed are so hard-working and professional, The Killing Season is the best advertisement the LAPD has had in a long time. The videotaped beating of Rodney King shattered whatever positive image the department had. And the shards of the icon were crushed by the perjured testimony of Mark Fuhrman and the mistakes of the LAPD crime lab in the O.J. Simpson case.
Corwin's intelligent, empathetic and in-depth observations, conducted from March to October 1993, offer rare insights into real and dedicated police who undertake a tough, grinding assignment. They are neither unflinchingly polite nor mistake-free.
Their work is so demanding and psychologically draining, I found myself wondering how they manage it. Razanskas, who lives in a zone of interrupted sleep and bodies, does it by maintaining a sense of humor. He is a relentless kiddier.

EARTHY CONCERNS



The usual - hazardous - method of detection is prodding the earth with a stick.

(IDF photo)

Solutions for land mines only scratch the surface

By DYORA BEN SHAUL
Although this column has dealt with the issue of land mines for several years, it is only recently, mostly due to the interest of the late Princess Diana, that the public has begun to pay attention to this serious problem.
There are 110 million land mines buried in 64 countries. Most are in places where the original hostilities that caused them to be planted are long over. Every year 12,000 people lose their lives to these abandoned mines and another 400,000 to 500,000 lose limbs.
The majority of the victims were not even born when the mines were placed.
Up until now, the grimmest part of the picture has been that even if international organizations succeeded in getting the nations of the world to declare a moratorium on new mines, it would take at least 30 years to clear away the ones already in place.
Little progress has been made in detecting and removing these deadly devices. The usual method is to prod the earth with a stick to locate them.
Needless to say, this procedure is extremely hazardous and there are few volunteers. Other means have been tried, such as sniffer dogs, with relative success.
The use of X-rays is not practical because they require an enormous amount of power, and the fields where the mines are located are generally far from power lines. Ground radar is somewhat useful, but rocks in the soil give false readings, resulting in wasted hours of digging.
But a new technique being developed in New Zealand shows the first real ray of hope. The solution lies in the microwave. Since microwaves heat only organic material, fields under experiment are being screened with microwaves.
The soil containing organic material heats up, while the plastic mines show up as cold spots on the infrared monitor. To rule out rock formations, tests are done after rainfall or after wetting the soil with water jets. The water carries enough organic material into the porosities of the rocks to make them heat up.
Although the technique is still under experimentation at the University of Auckland, researchers say there are only a few "bugs" to work out before large-scale trials are possible.
The beauty of the system is that it is inexpensive. A complete kit will cost about \$1,000. And it is so simple to implement that operators will need only a few hours of instruction. If it works, it will save many lives and prevent countless injuries.
However, new land mines are still being planted. They are effective, inexpensive, and may be deployed by totally unskilled personnel. To make matters worse, a number of countries are refusing to join in outlawing land mines in the future. Among them are the United States and Israel.

Medieval Cairo collapsing amid urban squalor

By LOUIS MEXLER
Sewer water creeps several meters up the limestone walls of the 700-year-old Islamic school, eroding the precious inscriptions adorning one of Cairo's architectural jewels.
Fissures as deep as 5 centimeters scar the walls of the building. Flakes fall from the stone blocks when they are merely tapped with a pen.
The remnants of medieval Cairo, once the seat of an empire stretching from Sudan to Syria, are crumbling, victims of a leaky sewer system, rumbling traffic and choking pollution.
In 20 years' time there will not be a single minaret standing," warns Costante Muzio of the United Nations Development Program.
The UN is preparing a rescue plan for critical areas of the city. The Egyptian government, along with teams from the US and Germany, is working to save specific treasures. But even those involved in the effort admit the task is overwhelming.
Medhat Menabawy, the official in charge of antiquities in northern Cairo, has a short answer when asked if all 200 monuments in his area can be saved: "Impossible!"
He said the government has set aside \$9 million to restore mosques, schools and tombs in his district, once a center of the medieval city.
That covers only 13 monuments in the northern area, which holds one-third of Cairo's Islamic architectural treasures.
For the most part, the government has focused its efforts on preserving the treasures of Egypt's pharaonic era - which draw thousands of tourists daily - while the remnants of what was once a great medieval city turn to dust.
More than 600 years ago, the famous Arab traveler Ibn Battuta described Cairo as the "mother of cities," boundless in the multitude of buildings, peerless in beauty and splendor. That endorsement must be preserved, Menabawy said. "It is not only our heritage. It is the world's heritage."
The dangers confronting medieval buildings are largely the problems plaguing the rest of the overcrowded metropolis of 16 million people.
The exploding population has overwhelmed Cairo's antiquated sewer system. It leaks contaminated water that is sucked up by the mortar between the limestone bricks that form the foundations of many medieval buildings.
Trucks and buses rumbling through the city cause vibrations that damage the monuments. Pollution from factories and cars leaves a layer of grime on almost everything, eroding the delicate inscriptions on many of the monuments.
"The damage has accelerated enormously in just the past three or four years," says John Rodenbeck, head of the Society for the Preservation of the Architectural Resources of Egypt.
In the heart of what is left of one of the most intact medieval cities in the world, hostels, mosques, Islamic schools and bath houses are crumbling.
The damage is apparent at one of the most important medieval treasures, a complex built by Sulaiman Qalawun, who rose from slavery to found a dynasty that ruled Egypt for a hundred years in the 13th and 14th centuries.
Some of the arched vaults at the Qalawun school have cracks a meter long.
In the sultan's tomb, the brown, red and white geometric mosaics on some of the walls are buckling so badly they make a hollow sound when stepped. A few are covered with white gauze to prevent pieces from falling.
At the Sultan al-Nasir Mohammed school, built by Qalawun's son, gray grime covers the Gothic portal that medieval Muslim warriors brought from a Crusader church and later used as the entrance to the school.
The Qalawun complex, at least, is being rescued. Menabawy said the project began in July and should be completed in 2 1/2 years.
The United Nations says a broader, coordinated effort is needed to save much more of the Islamic city, which Muzio estimates would cost tens of millions of dollars.
"We are talking of fixing an area of the city that includes 2 million people," he says.
UN officials are expected to present a rescue plan for Islamic Cairo to Egypt by year's end. Even if it is approved, the UN would then have to appeal for funds from international donors, many of whom face their own tight budgets. (AP)

JEWISH WEEKLY PLANNER 1997 - 1998 5758 תשנ"ח
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ISRAELI SHARES IN NEW YORK

LAST CHANGE

AMEX table with columns for company name and last change.

NASDAQ

NASDAQ table listing various Israeli companies and their share prices.

NYSE

NYSE table listing Israeli companies and their share prices.

INTERNATIONAL SHARES

LONDON

LONDON table listing international companies and their share prices.

NEW YORK

NEW YORK table listing international companies and their share prices.

Main financial table listing various international companies and their share prices.

Table listing various international companies and their share prices.

Dow rises 74 points on economic report

NEW YORK (AP) - Stocks ended a three-session losing streak Friday with help from an economic report bolstering the outlook for steady, noninflationary growth.

On Wall Street, the Dow Jones industrial average rose 74.17 points to 7,922.18, wiping out half of its 150-point loss over the prior three sessions.

Broader stock indicators also put in their best performance since Monday as bonds rebounded from Thursday's stumble, sending interest rates lower again.

Bonds rose in the morning after the government's latest calculation of second-quarter economic activity unexpectedly revealed a slower rate of growth than earlier estimates.

The Commerce Department said the gross domestic product grew at a 3.5 percent annual rate in the April-June quarter, down from an estimated 3.6%.

The revised tally represents a more substantial drop from the 4.9% rate recorded in the first quarter, a sizzling pace that led the Federal Reserve to raise one of its key lending rates in late March to help ease consumer spending and other inflationary pressures.

The markets retreated on Thursday after a series of robust economic readings stoked worries the Fed may intervene again, potentially slowing company profits.

Fed officials are scheduled to meet on Tuesday for one of their periodic strategy discussions, but few analysts expect the central bankers to take any action yet.

Advancing issues outnumbered decliners by an 8-to-5 margin on the New York Stock Exchange, with 1,771 up, 1,089 down and 544 unchanged.

NYSE volume totaled 501.69 million shares as of 4 p.m., vs. \$24.92 million in the previous session.

The Standard and Poor's 500-stock list rose 7.31 to 945.22, and the NYSE composite index rose 3.68 to 495.20.

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STOCKS

Table listing various stock indices and their values.

Wall Street

NEW YORK (AP) - Stocks ended a three-session losing streak Friday with help from an economic report...

Europe

LONDON (Reuters) - London blue chip shares soared 3.17 percent on Friday on speculation that Britain might join European economic and monetary union (EMU) soon after its launch...

Asia

HONG KONG (AP) - Asian stock markets ended the week generally lower Friday, with share prices tumbling in Tokyo for the second straight day because of pessimism over Japan's economy.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES

Table listing various foreign exchange rates.

NEW YORK MARKET INDEXES

Table listing various New York market indexes.

OTHER MARKET INDEXES

Table listing various other market indexes.

DOLLAR CROSS RATES (US)

Table listing various dollar cross rates.

US COMMODITIES

Table listing various US commodities.

LONDON METAL FIXES

Table listing various London metal fixes.

NEW YORK METAL FUTURES

Table listing various New York metal futures.

1987, which came just after that month's stock market crash. The previous intraday high was 5,095.3 points on August 7 this year.

In contrast, French and German shares were hit in early trade by the weaker dollar which fell on the back of heightened fears that German interest rates may rise soon.

The British government swiftly branched as speculation the Financial Times report which sparked the markets frenzy, but this failed to dent sentiment.

British bonds also jumped because of the assumption that if Britain joined EMU early, sterling would lock into the single currency at a rate well below current levels.

London analysts warned that in the short term, markets still have to contend with the prospect of higher, rather than lower, interest rates - particularly in the US - and the global market setback that a rate hike could spark.

Sterling fell nearly two percent against the mark on the EMU report to a low of 2.8080 but by late afternoon European time it had recovered partly to around 2.8320.

The pound's tumble sent London's FTSE 100 blue chip index soaring above 5,100 points for the first time to close at 5,226.3 points.

This was the index's biggest daily point gain since October 21, 1987, which came just after that month's stock market crash.

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ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS

Table listing various Israel money market rates.

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (26.9/97)

Table listing various shekel foreign exchange rates.

CHECKS AND TRANSFERS

Table listing various checks and transfers.

US DOLLAR

Table listing various US dollar rates.

EURO

Table listing various Euro rates.

YEN

Table listing various Yen rates.

DRIVE CAREFULLY

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Pacific Mediterranean Capital Markets Group

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WHERE TO GO

Jerusalem

TEL AVIV

HAIFA

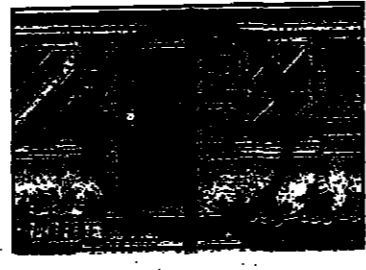
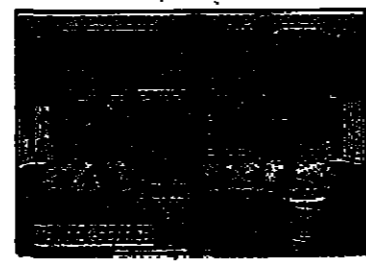
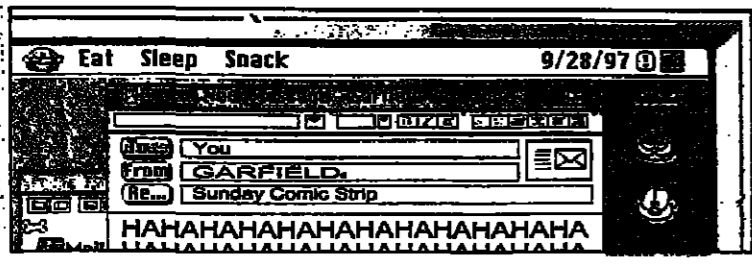
HAIFA

THE JERUSALEM POST SUNDAY COMICS

CRITIC

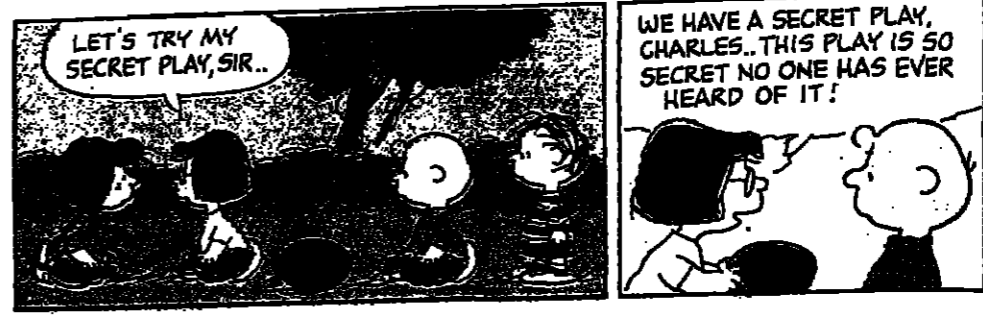
CLASSICAL MUSIC

TELEVISION

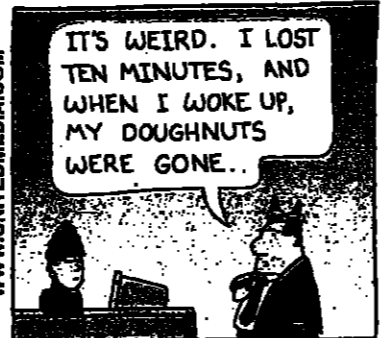
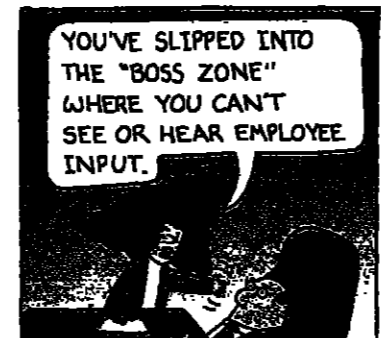
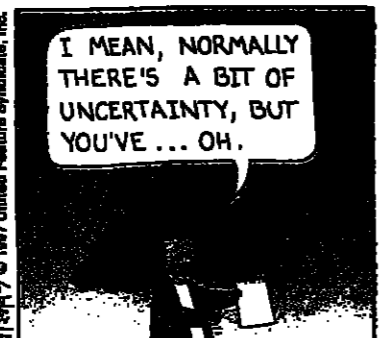
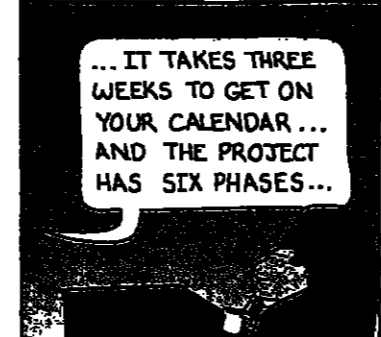


PEANUTS

by SCHAPE



DILBERT



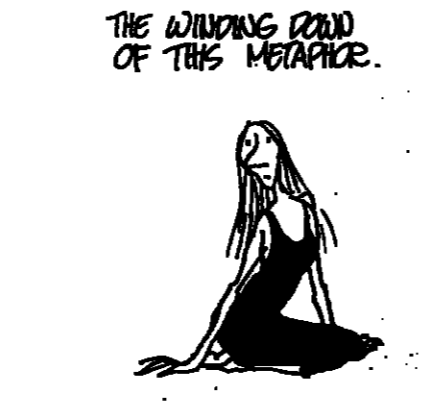
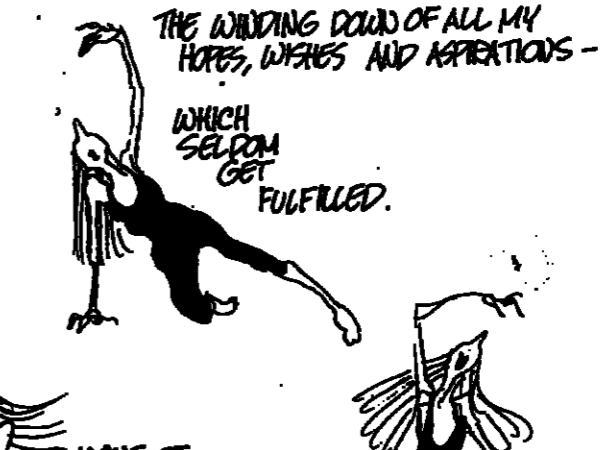
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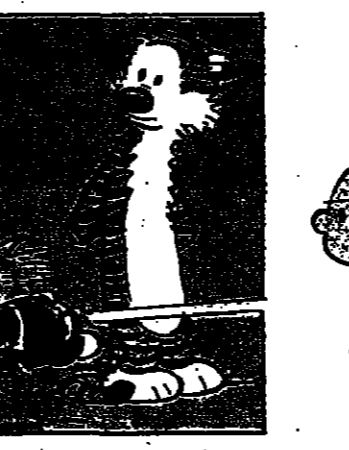
BY G. B. TRUDEAU



FEEIFER



Calvin and Hobbes



US Jews in dilemma over Israeli gun sales

By MARILYN HENRY

NEW YORK — Navigating through a political and moral mine field, American Jewish organizations are cautiously trying to oppose a TAAS-Israel Industries contract to sell assault weapons in the US, balancing their support for gun control against support for Israel.

Meanwhile, Senator Dianne Feinstein, a mighty advocate of gun control, has asked President Bill Clinton to temporarily suspend the import of some semiautomatic weapons.

"Even if it is technically legal, the importation of these weapons is highly problematic," said Martin Raffel, associate director of the Jewish Council for Public Affairs, an umbrella organization of Jewish community relations councils and defense agencies in the US. "No one thinks it was a good idea to sell these weapons in the US. The only question is how to express it," Raffel said Friday.

"We're not against the Israeli arms industry by any stretch of the imagination. We are for a strong Israel," Raffel said. "We're certainly not trying to undermine Israel's ability to defend itself through a strong arms industry." Americans, in

general, are passionately and sharply divided on gun control, resulting in a confusing array of laws that attempt to regulate access to weapons in a society where the right to bear arms is enshrined in the Constitution.

The Jewish community, which generally backs gun control, squirmed because it appears that Israel was singled out for criticism when Feinstein said that, "By advancing this export, the Israeli government is putting the official imprimatur of its people on the commercial sale of weapons designed, not for hunting but for combat, not to protect but to kill."

Feinstein, a California Democrat, asked Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, in a letter on September 11, to intervene to cancel the contract, which could import to the US tens of thousands of Galil- and Uzi-like assault weapons.

The American Jewish Congress wrestled with its opposition to the Israeli contract, noting the irony of calling on another country to exercise restraint on behalf of Americans, when the Americans have been unwilling to impose limits on themselves.

"The American people could decisively end this practice by making all such imports illegal if we wanted to," Phil Baum, executive director of the AJC, said in a statement last week. "These terrible weapons have no place in American life no matter where they may be manufactured."

According to the US Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms, the Israeli weapons have been sufficiently modified to meet the technical legal requirements for import into the US.

However, Feinstein said Thursday in a Senate speech that the export of semiautomatic assault weapons into the US may violate a 1968 gun control law, which allows the import of only those firearms "generally recognized as particularly suitable for, or readily adaptable to, sporting purposes."

Feinstein has asked Clinton to suspend the import of specific semiautomatic weapons until there is a review about whether these weapons are suitable for sporting purposes. "These weapons are not designed for sporting purposes. They are not designed for hunting," she said Thursday.

"They are the weapons of choice for grievance killers, for gangs, and for those who go up against the police. They are designed to kill large numbers of people in combat, just as the Uzi and the Galil were designed for the Israeli military to do just that," Feinstein said. "They have no place on the streets of a civilized society."

The American Reform movement has backed Feinstein and called on Netanyahu to halt the sale, saying that "weapons of war intended to help save lives in the Middle East [should] not contribute to the bloodying of American streets."

Feinstein said she will continue to press for a suspension of the contract until there is a review about whether these weapons are suitable for sporting purposes. "These weapons are not designed for sporting purposes. They are not designed for hunting," she said Thursday.

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The patient, who undergoes treatment in the internal-medicine day unit on a regular basis, hit deputy housekeeping department director Rami Pinhas on his wrist with the metal pole holding his infusion bag. It was the first such attack involving enforcement of the no-smoking law at Hadassah.

"He was smoking under the 'No Smoking' sign," recalled Pinhas, who does volunteer rounds — wearing a special badge — to restrict smoking in the hospital. "I asked the patient to move a few meters down the hall to the smoking corner. But even before I could finish my sentence, he attacked me with the metal stand."

"I called a security man, who took control of him and moved him to the department. The patient refused to apologize in writing and promise to smoke only in designated smoking areas, so I had no choice but to file a formal complaint with the police," Pinhas said.

When his pain did not dissipate, Pinhas went to the emergency room, where an X-ray showed a fracture in his right wrist. "I quit smoking myself five years ago," said Pinhas, 41, and the father of three, "and now I

WEATHER	
Haifa 18-27	Tiberias 14-22
Ahlat 17-30	Samartha 18-28
Tel Aviv 19-28	Jerusalem 18-25
BeerSheva 19-30	Dead Sea 25-27
Eilat 22-35	

Forecast: Partly cloudy to clear. Local rain in the North.

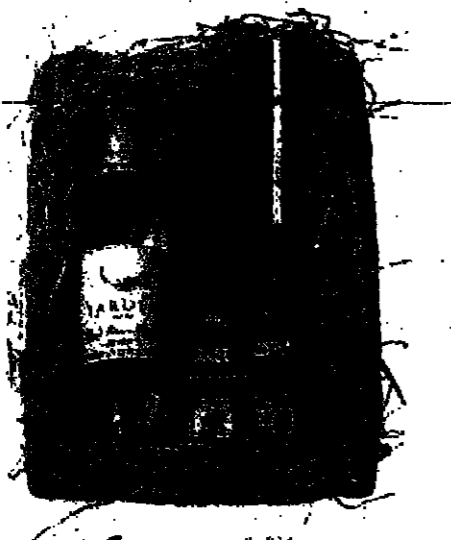
AROUND THE WORLD			
	LOW	HIGH	
Amsterdam	08 48	22 72	cloudy
Berlin	08 48	22 72	clear
Buenos Aires	12 54	30 86	clear
Chicago	09 48	20 68	partly cloudy
Copenhagen	08 54	17 63	clear
Frankfurt	08 48	23 73	clear
Geneva	08 54	21 70	clear
Helsinki	04 39	14 57	clear
Hong Kong	22 72	26 79	cloudy
Jakarta	10 80	27 81	clear
Lahore	17 63	26 78	cloudy
London	08 54	17 63	cloudy
Los Angeles	19 66	20 68	clear
Madrid	15 59	21 70	clear
Moscow	12 54	24 75	clear
Mumbai	01 34	08 37	cloudy
New York	11 52	24 75	clear
Niagara	17 63	24 75	clear
Paris	09 48	23 73	clear
Rome	12 54	24 75	clear
Stockholm	07 45	16 61	cloudy
Sydney	12 54	24 75	clear
Tokyo	18 64	24 75	partly cloudy
Vienna	11 52	18 64	cloudy
Zurich	09 48	20 68	cloudy



'Shihot' services
Shofar blowers (from left) Yitzhak Ben-Shoshan, Danny Yomtov and Beni Yomtov sound 'shofarot' at an early morning 'shihot' service last week at the Ateret Mordechai Sephardic Synagogue in Jerusalem's East Talpiot neighborhood. Ashkenazi congregations began saying 'shihot' last night. (Joe Malcom)

book department

Jerusalem Post Offerings Rosh Hashana, 1997



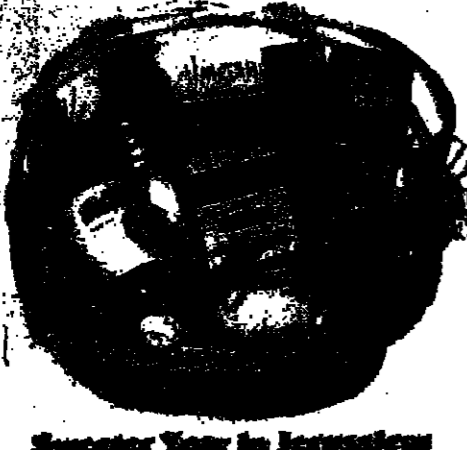
Spice and Nice
Add a little spice to a sweet new year! Our basket includes a bottle of wine (375 ml), a jar of honey, olive oil and Israeli spices. NIS 150



Sweet Year in Jerusalem
It should be a sweet year with our basket holding a bottle of wine (375 ml), tea, chocolate bar, Swiss petit fruits, a jar of honey, almonds, marzipan, chocolate-jelly, candles and a special card with a taste of honey. NIS 150



Spice and Nice-Twice
To bring in a year of sweetness, with a touch of pepper, we have a bottle of fine wine, a jar of apples in honey, packaged in a wooden frame, gourmet olive oil, a pair of honey candles, two Israeli spices, and herbal teas. NIS 150



Sweetest Year in Jerusalem
Send a treat to someone you love with our basket of wine, chocolate-covered lemon peels or dates, candy-coated almonds, Swiss Petit fruits, white and dark chocolate-covered almonds, chocolate sticks, tea, marzipan, honey candles, honey in a ceramic container and a honey dipper. NIS 250



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